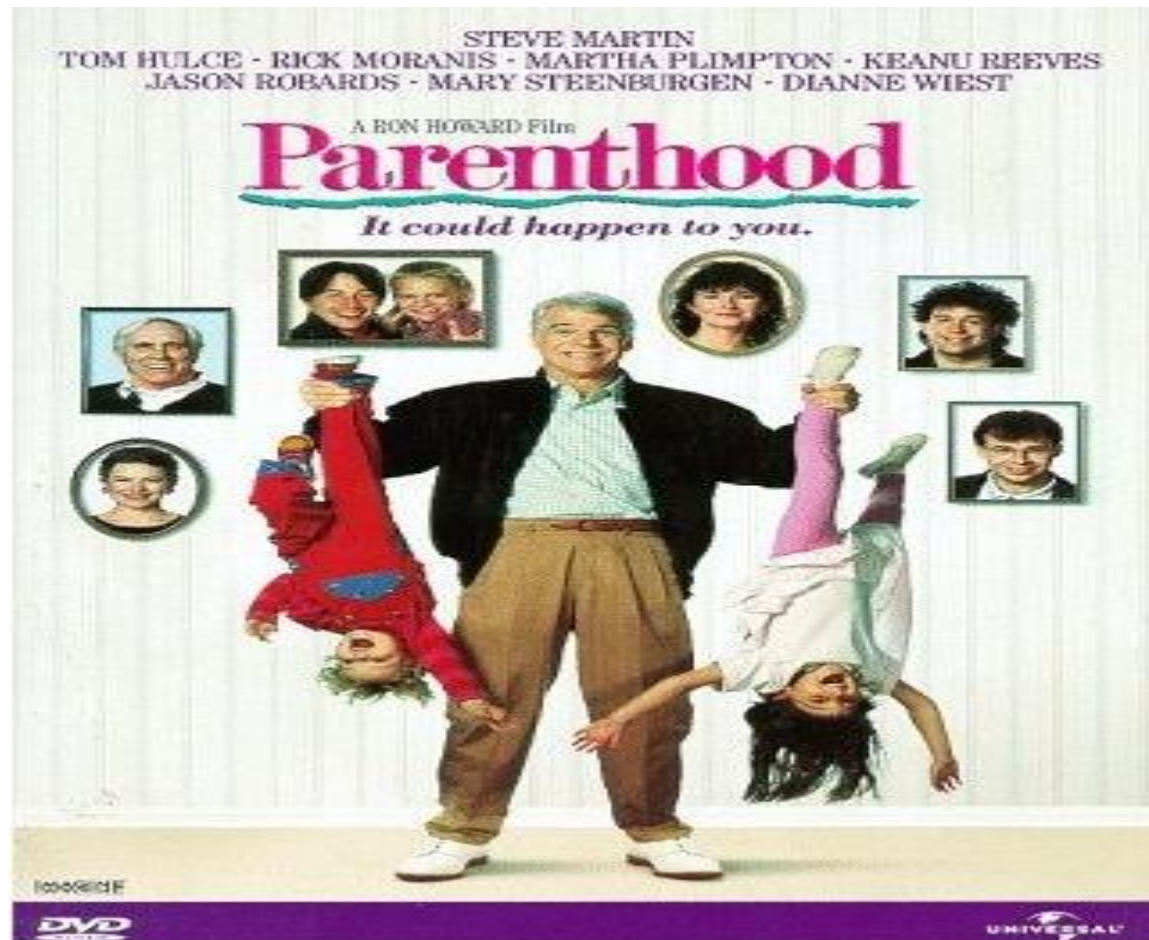


## 7.3 Parenthood: Changes in This Stage of the Life Cycle



# Parenthood: A Time of Change

- When do you think any changes would occur?
- Women: this change occurs pregnancy as they anticipate their future child
- The physical act of:

# Parenthood: A Time of Change



and



- Results in a strong attachment between the mother and infant

# Parenthood: A Time of Change

- For men, the transition to “father” occurs more slowly, usually following the birth of the baby
- Watching the infant continue to develop and become less dependent on the mother



# Parenthood: A Time of Change

- Although the joys of parenthood remain the same from generation to generation, the nature of parenting itself does not
- Each generation has new beliefs about:

# Parenthood: A Time of Change



**Nutrition**



# Parenthood: A Time of Change



**Expectations  
About  
Appropriate &  
Inappropriate  
Behaviour**

# Parenthood: A Time of Change



Child  
upbringing

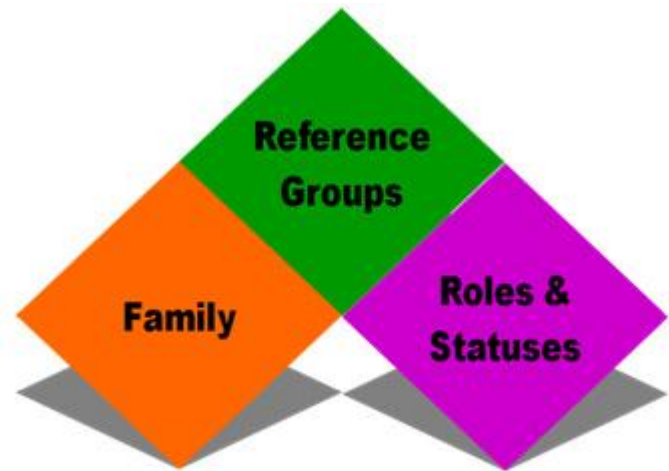


# Parenthood: A Time of Change

- Two other major factors combine to change the nature of parenthood from one period of time to the next:



**Economics**



**Social Factors**

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- In 1998, Dave Dupuis wrote a report on a survey that examined factors that influence people's plans to have children
- What do you think the report found?

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- The report found:



**Marital  
Status**

**Family  
Values**

**Religion**

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- All three of those factors had an impact on a person's decision on when to have children and how many children to have.

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

## Marriage

- Marriage is said to lead people to want to have children
- Despite the amount of common law unions in Canada, 2/3 of births still occur within marriage



# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

## Marriages

- Birth rate among married women is nearly double that of women who spent their entire reproductive life in a common law relationship

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

## **FAMILY VALUES**

- Parents transfer attitudes and behaviours to their children
- Young adults who have many siblings tend to want more children as opposed to young adults with few siblings

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

## FAMILY VALUES

- One aspect in this study that was found to not have an impact on child bearing attitudes is:

**Divorce**





# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- 
- Young adults who reported having no religion tend to have the smallest number of children
  - Also people who attended church weekly had larger families because they tend to view marriage and family as important to their happiness

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- According to Dupuis` report the factor that had the biggest impact on decisions about parenthood was:





# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- In general, the more education women have, the fewer children they bare
- This is particularly true about women with a university degree
- The costs associated with interruptions to their careers tend to delay child bearing

# Parenthood: Factors That Influence Decisions About Parenthood

- On the contrary:
- Men with a higher education level tend to father more children.
- This is due to the fact that university educated men have well paid, stable employment and are better suited to afford more children.

# Trends Associated with Parenthood

- How are Social factors and parenthood related?
- Birth Control
- There are two trends that seem to be affecting child bearing decisions

# Trends Associated with Parenthood

- Child-bearing later in life
- Stability of Relationships
- Professions

# The Effect of Medical Advances on the Age of Parents

- Reproductive Technologies have helped to extend their fertility period
- The ability to buy eggs of a younger woman for fertilization and implementation into an older woman has extended fertility period
- Lesbians and Gay Couples